

ST. ALPHONSUS CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Est. 1867

St. Alphonsus Catholic Church

210 E. Logan, Lemont

Parish Office Center 630-257-2414

Fax 630-257-2476

Religious Ed. Office 630-257-2371

School Office 630-783-2220

20W145 Davey Road

Website: www.st-als.org

E-mail: stals-lemont@comcast.net

Business Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 8 am - 4 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Schedule

Monday-Friday 7:30 am in the chapel

Holy Days to be announced

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday—8:00 am—8:00 pm, chapel

Sacramental Life

Reconciliation

Saturday—4:00 to 4:30 pm

Or by appointment

Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated the second and third Sunday of every month.

No Baptisms during Lent

Marriage

Prospective bride and groom must be registered parishioners for at least 6 months before a wedding date may be scheduled.

Sick and Homebound

Contact the office, 257-2414 to receive a visit from a Minister of Care

**St. Alphonsus
Catholic Church
Parish Registration**

Everyone 18 years and older should register for the parish. To register, please call the Office Center, 257-2414 or you can register online at www.st-als.org.

Parish Staff

Pastor

Fr. Brian Ardagh

Tri-Parish Associate Pastor

Fr. Tom Hoffman

Resident

Fr. Robert Rohrich

Weekend Celebrant

Fr. Lou Zake

Diaconal Ministry:

Deacon Terry McGuire

Deacon Dan Rittenhouse

Director of Religious Education

Kevin Cody

Admin. Assistant for Religious Ed.

Melanie Terrazas

School Principal:

Renee Payne

Pastoral Associate:

Linda O Connor

Office Coordinator:

Roseann Lucas

Accountant:

Carol Levas

Music Director

Joseph Martorano

Music Staff

Diane Marelli

SPRED: Carol Levas

**Parish Pastoral
Council Members**

Mike Bruno

Bill Doherty

Diane Kaye

Deborah Kornacker

Sharon Kostes

Roy Tam

Terese Turner

James Zuccarelli

From Father Brian's Desk

Tri-Parish Advent Mission

The Lemont Tri-Parish Advent Mission will take place at St. Patrick's Church **Sunday, Nov. 29th, Monday, Nov. 30th** and **Tuesday, Dec. 1st**. This year's Advent Mission facilitator is Fr. Larry Gorski. Fr. Gorski has celebrated Mass here at St. Alphonsus Church on a number of occasions in the past few years and I believe he will offer an excellent presentation to prepare us for Advent.

We will begin each night of the Advent Mission at 7:30 p.m. with Mass. There will also be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday night after Mass. Please join us to celebrate the season of Advent in prayer preparing for the birthday of our Lord!

Annual Financial Report

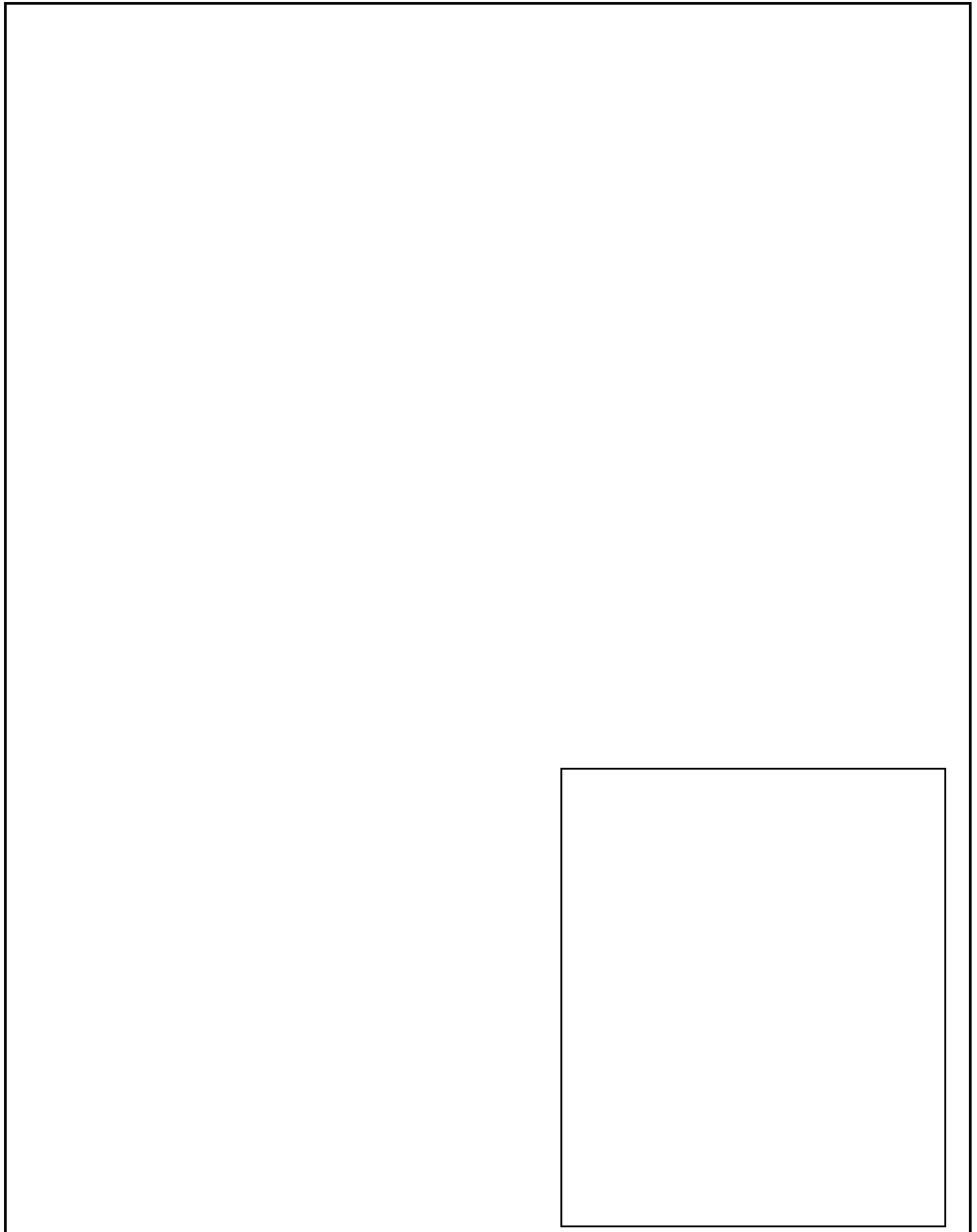
The Archdiocese of Chicago fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th of the following year. This Annual Report represents July 1st to June 30th 2015. It is the responsibility of the Pastor and the Parish Finance Council to inform the parish of the financial status of the community.

Even though we print the weekly collection amounts, it is also necessary to share with the parish a small Finance Report of income and expenses. The Annual Report is always reviewed by the Parish Finance Council to be approved before it is sent to the Archdiocese of Chicago Finance Department.

This year our Annual Report is a positive one. Here is a brief summary:

1. Due to our parishioners' generosity, St. Alphonsus Church weekly collections remained comparable to last year and we even encountered a slight increase in Christmas and Easter collections.
2. Our overall expenses were only slightly higher than our previous fiscal year.
3. In regards to the Extraordinary Expenses section, we were able to refinish and streamline the sanctuary floor so it will provide ease of accessibility for our priests, altar servers and ministers. Thank you in part of this expense was covered by some generous donors. We also repaired the Religious Education Center roof and the Parish Center roof this year.

What should be noted is that even during our world's current economic situation, the parishioners of St. Alphonsus have continued to be very generous. I again would like to thank you for your generosity and support that you offer to our parish community. Let us pray for one another as we continue on our journey to make the Kingdom of God become a reality in our lives.



Religious Education Update

NO RE SESSIONS THIS SUNDAY OR MONDAY (29TH, 30TH)

OBSERVING ADVENT

It's the first week of Advent! What can we do this year during Advent that will make Christmas more meaningful for our children?

In response to this question that many parents ask, I will offer some ideas throughout Advent. It is not too late to make an Advent Chain.

Cut one strip of purple construction paper for each day of Advent. Use a pink strip for the third Sunday of Advent and a white strip for Christmas. Some families like to write something special on each strip such as: Call Grandma today. Do something nice for someone. Say a Hail Mary for someone who is sick. Read a book about a saint. Let your kids brainstorm other things to write. Then use paste to loop the strips into a chain. Each morning detach one link and read the message as you wait for Christmas.

MID-TERM ASSESSMENTS

The first half of the program year will be coming to a close in a few weeks. Before break for the holidays, the children will be given an assessment to provide feedback on how they have retained the core concepts thus far for their grade-level. There are no grades given these are not like school exams.

Please help your child to review what has been covered to this point, but try to avoid the perception that they are studying to perform well on a test. The children do not need more anxiety put on them. We just want them to grow in their understanding of the Catholic faith, leading to a deeper relationship with God through Jesus.

TOP 10 MISTAKES PARENTS OF TEENS MAKE

The Christmas season is one focused on family. At times we are introspective. That introspection can include ways that we can improve as parents. The following are suggestions from a blog called *Disciple*. I'll hit on 4 this week and the remaining 6 over the next 2 weeks.

10. Not Spending Time With Your Teen - A lot of parents make the mistake of not spending time with their teens because they assume their teens do not spend time with them! While that is some contexts, teens still want and need chunks of one-on-one time with parents. When you don't carve out time to spend with your teen, you're communicating that you're not interested and they internalize that message, consciously or unconsciously.

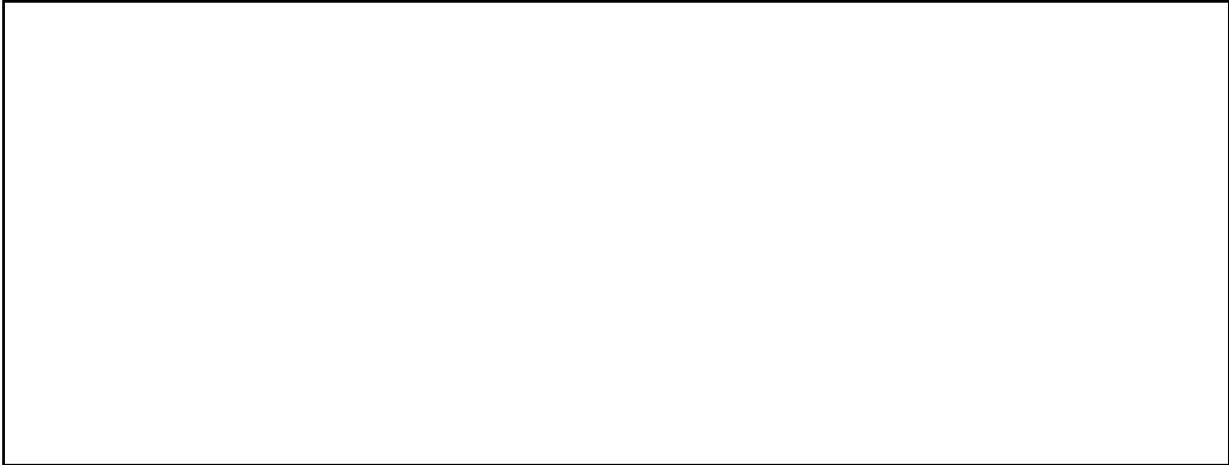
9. Letting your teen's activities take top priority for your family - There can be a tendency nowadays to allow our teen's wants/needs to overwhelm the family schedule. We want the things our children are able to have as children, but it can get crazy with all the running around we do to accommodate our teens' schedules. We need to prioritize investing in their relationship with God (individually and as a couple), themselves and each other, but sadly all of these are often neglected in the name of helping them get ahead. Don't let the youth sports cartel run your life, says Jen Singer, author of *You're A Good Mom (and Your Kids Aren't So Bad Either)*.

8. Spoiling Your Teen - A lot of the time parents are well-intentioned in spoiling, but our continual stream of money and stuff causes teens to never be satisfied and always wanting more.

7. Permissive Parenting - Whatever the reason, permissive parenting is completely irreconcilable with a Christian worldview. I certainly do not advocate authoritarian parenting styles, but if we practice a permission parenting style we're abdicating our God-given responsibility to provide our children with structure, limits, discipline and consequences to our teen (all of which actually help our teen flourish long-term).

St. Alphonsus-St. Patrick School News

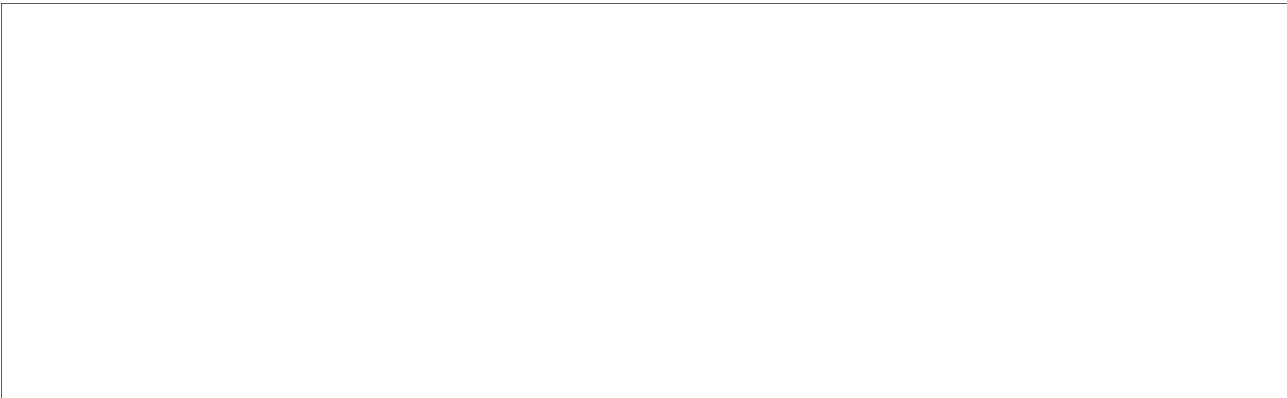
Check out our website: www.stals-stpats.org



EIGHTH GRADE PORTRAYAL OF SAINTS

Recently our cafeteria underwent a miraculous transformation as the eighth graders simulated a wax figure museum of Saints. Under the direction of Mrs. Bruno, the eighth grade teacher, each eighth grader dressed up to represent their chosen Confirmation Saint and posed beside a stained glass window backdrop that they had created. The stained glass windows were filled with rich symbolism important to their Saint's story. Complete candle light and hushed voices, the setting became a very holy place and a spectacular way to honor All Saints Day. The young grades were welcomed in

and gathered in small groups at each Saint to hear their story. The young children listened with rapt attention as the eighth grade Saints revealed details about the faith-inspiring person they represented. As the young students left the museum, they were able to choose to make cards that the eighth graders had made to represent others of their Saint. This experience really helped the Saints come alive not only for the eighth grade Confirmation, but to our whole school community. We are so grateful to provide these experiences both for those creating them and for those praying with them. When our faith is lived in such a beautiful way with our other learning, we recognize and feel our Catholic identity deeply. Great job Eighth Grade!





**CHILDREN'S CHOIR
FOR CHRISTMAS**

All children in third grade and older are invited to participate in the special children s choir at the 3:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass.

Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, December 3rd from 5:00 6:00 p.m. in the Religious Education Building.

For more details please contact Joe Martorano at 708-828-5095.

**St. Alphonsus
Music Ministry**

Presents

**"SONGS
FOR THE SEASON"**

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 13th

3:30 pm

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH

Lighting The Advent Wreath

The Advent Season has arrived and the Worship Commission would like to extend an invitation to all parish families to light the candles of the Advent Wreath at all masses. If you and your family would like to join us in this tradition, please contact the Parish office at (630) 257-2414. Thank you.

A service of Christmas songs and reflections presented by the St. Alphonsus Parish Choir. This 45 minute service is sure to set you into the spirit of the season!

Thank You

The Pro-Life Ministry would like to thank all of you who participated in the Baby Bottle Campaign. Thanks to you, we raised \$3157.12 for the Women s Center of Greater Chicagoland. The money will go a long way in helping the Women s Center provide care and support to mothers and their babies who are in need of assistance.

Thank you for responding to Jesus and to serve the poor among us.

GREATNESS

The measure of greatness is not the number of servants you have, but the number of people you serve.

Anonymous

From Mary's Heart to Ours

The Women's Club of St. Alphonsus invites you to our

Annual Advent Reflection

Sunday, December 6, 2015

Beginning at 12:00 Noon in the Church Hall

Join us as we explore the life of this young Jewish girl whose fiat forever changed the course of salvation history. Mary's life as a wife and mother has much to teach us as contemporary Christians. Time will be given for private reflection and group sharing.

Event will include soup & salad lunch, dessert, tea & coffee.

For questions, please contact Nanci Smith at 708-557-7070 or nancis6@comcast.net

Dr. Mary Amore holds a Doctor of Ministry Degree in Liturgy and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies from Catholic Theological Union. Dr. Amore is the author of Primary Symbols of Worship and the Call to Participation, as well as the creator of the new DVD Series on the Eucharist entitled: A Journey to Transformation, Healing and Discipleship. A Cardinal Bernardin Scholar and distinguished member of the North American Academy of Liturgy, Mary is a presenter of parish missions, workshops and seminars, as well as a monthly blogger for Catholicmom.com and monthly columnist for Ministry and Liturgy Magazine. Dr. Amore is a wife, mother and grandmother and serves as the Executive Director of Mayslake Ministries in Downers Grove.

Yes! I will be at the Advent Reflection

This event is free, but a \$5 freewill donation & RSVP's would be appreciated!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Please return your RSVP to the Church Office attention: Nanci Smith

World AIDS Day is an international day of celebration, observed in over 150 countries around the world. It is about people getting the facts about HIV/AIDS, getting involved in some way, and caring. The day addresses the stigma, discrimination and violence which persons living with HIV/AIDS face daily. The Church is in a unique position to address these issues and offer education, hope and compassion to persons living with the disease and their families. World AIDS Day invites each of us to pray in faith and solidarity with the human family to address the limitations and circumstances which can increase peoples vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.

Please remember those persons living with HIV/AIDS, their loved ones, caregivers, researchers and those millions orphaned by the disease in your prayers.

EPIPHANY CHRISTMAS SHARING TREE

The Epiphany Christmas Sharing Tree is on this Thanksgiving weekend, November 28 & 29, beginning of Advent. During this Advent season, let us remember gifts to us and share our blessings with others. We can do this by taking a child's tag from the Epiphany Sharing Tree tags for GIRLS and GREEN tags for BOYS. To avoid having one child receive much more than another, please limit the total gift purchase to \$40.00.

When taking a tag, please follow these guidelines:

Each tag has a child's name on it. It is very important that the tag provided with the child's name to the gift and TAPE IT SECURELY TO THE TOP OF THE GIFT. If you do not tape it on the outside of the gift, a child will not receive his/her gift. Think how disappointing that will be for a child.

GIFT CARDS MUST BE WRAPPED IN A BOX. NO BAGS PLEASE.

RETURN THE GIFT TO CHURCH BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH.

If donating by check, please make it payable to St. Alphonse and indicate Epiphany Sharing Tree.

This year we will support SEVERAL families with gifts. If you are interested in taking a family on your own or share with someone else, please call Anne at the parish office, 630-257-2414.

May God bless you for your good generosity and kindness.

Anne Lichtenwalter

SAVE THE DATE: **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015**

St. Alphonse/St. Patrick School's annual
PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
 8am-1:30pm.
 St. Patrick's Parish
 200 E Lemont St
 (in old school basement)
 Bring your camera . . .
 Free photos with Santa!

Adults \$7.00
Children & Seniors \$6.00
Children 3 & under - free

“TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN.”

“A Time to be Born through Baptism” —

“A Time to Love in Holy Matrimony” — Congratulations to:

“A Time to Heal” —

Joetta Karlos	Patty Baldrige	Dorothy Goushas	Melanie Williams	Patricia Dedek
Nora McDonnell	Baby Kenneth	Robert Trock	Karl Knasiak	Sue Dyer
Mary Tadda	Bill Sullivan	Bonnie Posey	Tina Ruiz	Jim Musial
Nathan Parry	Greg Hoger	Ken Convalle	Ashley Smith Kitzer	Carson Lee Umentum
Phil Smith	Mary Tomy	Virginia Henry	Randy Nowak	Marilyn Ransford
Ray DeNardis	Kandice Marie Sasa	Linda Heeg	Dan Herzing	David Nenn
	John Cacciato	Annamarie	Duane Billedeau	Jim Kulikauskas

Challenger

“A Time of War” --

Scott Bosco, USA, Kuwait	Joshua Plucinski, US Air Force,	Andrew J. Bosko, Jr., USN,
Christopher Durkovic, USA, S. Korea		Germany Virginia Beach, VA
Stanley M. Simrayh III, USN, Japan	David Borkowski, USN, Mississippi	Kevin Parker, USA, stationed in US
Alex Sullivan, USA, Italy	Joseph R. Pociask, USMC, San Diego	And all who serve our country.
	Jacob Christine, US Navy, Guatemala	

“A Time to Die” The military and innocent civilians who have died in the war.

Please keep all these listed, and their families, in your prayers.

Are You Registered?

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment in all its dimensions. It also brings many advantages, recognition and responsibility. Being a registered parishioner makes the process much easier when it is time for infant baptism, sacramental registration, weddings, or when asked to be a baptismal or confirmation sponsor.

Registering here is very simple. You can go to our webpage, www.st-als.org, look under Parish Registration, and fill out the needed information. You can come into the office and fill out a registration form. If your time is limited, you can take the form home and return it via the collection basket on Sundays or mail it to the office.

A registered parishioner receives all parish mailings. Church law advises that territories or boundaries no longer limit parish registration. We accept anyone who wants to share in the life of our parish regardless of where they live.

Remember that you need to be a registered parishioner to partake in all the services that St. Alphonsus offers. Why not sign up? You are surely welcome!

Thank you for your continued support of our local food pantry. As part of a service project, the St. Al's Women's Club will be featuring a product of the month. This item will be a special request from the pantry for an item that is needed most. For we will collect paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels and Kleenex, etc. Any item you are able to give is gratefully accepted. The staples you provide are also necessary. Your kindness and generosity are very much appreciated.

LOOPS OF LOVE MEETING



Remember that the Knit and Crochet Group meets the first Wednesday of each month at Nancy Zuccarelli's house at 1350 Overton Drive in Lemont. If you have not joined us before-no problem-come just the same. If you have joined us before or are a regular, we look forward to seeing you on December 2nd at 7:00PM.

Weekly Offering

November 21 & 22, 2015

Week s Need \$12,869.00

Due to the early bulletin submission, figures for the above weekend will be reported in the weeks to come.

Thank you for your support of our parish.



THANK YOU for your support to help end poverty through building solidarity in our communities. Working together we can reach out to our brothers and sisters living on the periphery of society.

Please visit www.povertyusa.org to read more details about Catholic Campaign for Human Development's efforts to spread Christ's love by helping to break the cycle of poverty in your community and across the country.

- C Church
- CH Church Hall
- Chpl - Chapel
- RE Religious Ed Bldg.
- OC Office Center
- PC Parish Center
- PC/ABC Parish Ctr, Rm A,B,C



Mass Intentions

<p>Saturday, November 28</p> <p>5:00 pm Bernie Kucharski <i>Mr. & Mrs. S. Swanson</i> Marie Fidanzo <i>Fidanzo Family</i> Parishioners of St. Alphonsus</p> <p>7:30 am Frances Kos <i>Don & Barb Betley</i> Jozef Dziaba <i>Family</i></p> <p>9:00 am Helen & Josph McElligott <i>Jim & Pat McElligott & Anne Nolan</i></p> <p>11:00 am Mary L. Stanton <i>John P. Stanton, Sr.</i> Bruce Ponx <i>Wasmund Family</i></p> <p>5:00 pm Parishioners of St. Alphonsus Parish (Mass at St. Patrick Church)</p> <p>Monday, November 30</p> <p>7:30 am Brian Madon <i>Bill & Mary Anne Doherty</i></p> <p>Tuesday, December 1</p> <p>7:30 am Patricia A. Goode <i>Tony Goode</i> Karen Mooney <i>Judith & Michael Mooney</i></p> <p>Wednesday, December 2</p> <p>7:30 am Rev. Frank Jenks <i>Pam & Roger Nogal</i></p> <p>Thursday, December 3</p> <p>7:30 am Jozef Dziaba <i>Family</i> Michael Bromberek <i>Bev & Paul Malak</i></p>	<p>Friday, December 4</p> <p>7:30 am Sandy Brunka <i>Paul & Bev Malak</i></p> <p>Saturday, December 5</p> <p>5:00 pm Jean Lindauer <i>Rita Lindauer</i> Bernie Kucharski <i>Mr. & Mrs. F. Batistich</i></p> <p>Sunday, December 6</p> <p>7:30 am Jozef Dziaba <i>Family</i> Michelle Langowski <i>Judy Langowski</i> Parishioners of St. Alphonsus</p> <p>9:00 am Helen McElligott <i>Jim & Pat McElligott & Anne Nolan</i></p> <p>Ronald Skarzynski <i>Don & Barb Betley</i> Mary C. Maloney <i>Pat & Jim Browne</i></p> <p>11:00 am Philip Dupont <i>McGuire Family</i> Joan Mel Peters <i>Litoborski Family</i></p> <p>5:00 pm Parishioners of St. Alphonsus (Mass at St. Patrick Church)</p>
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PLEASE NOTE : The 2016 Mass book is now open

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

PLEASE NOTE : If you are celebrating a special event, wedding anniversary, etc. and request a song or renewal of vows, arrangements must be made in advance by calling the Parish Office, 2414. The blessings and/or renewals will take place after the Mass.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Date	Time	Lector	Ministers	Servers	Music	Gather Hymnal
Dec. 5	5:00 pm	P. Josephitis	D. Josephitis A. Pascente B. Israel	Popper Family W. Tarazi	Keyboard & Cantor	The Glendalough Mass
Dec. 6	7:30 am	B. Betley	D. Betley C. Kuhlman G. Umentum	Bozue Family		Setting Seven
	9:00 am	P. Browne	D. Rittenhouse G. Rittenhouse C. Cacciato	Calhoun Family	Parish Choir	Kyrie #260
	*11:00 am	J. Chiaramonte	D.. Chiaramonte S. Turner D. Kornacker D. Betley (C) K. Gory (C)	A. Mierzycki F. Kula	Treble Ensemble	Gospel Acclamation #262 Holy, Holy #263
	5:00 pm					Memorial Acclamation (B) #265 Great Amen #267 Lamb of God #269

* Communion under both species

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